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Our Ref: PT-2050000

February 28, 2006



VIA COURIER

The Commissioner of Patents
UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE
Mail Stop Amendment
Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

Re: Response to Examination Report

Application Serial No. 10/663,836

Of Zhi-Xian Wang, Yuanqiang Li and Bhaskar Reddy Guntoori

**For A NOVEL PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF FLECAINIDE,
ITS PHARMACEUTICALLY ACCEPTABLE SALTS AND IMPORTANT
INTERMEDIATES THEREOF**

Group Art Unit 1625

Examiner: Taylor Victor Oh

Due Date: March 1, 2006

Customer No. 23607

Please find enclosed the following:

1. Response to Examination Report dated February 27, 2006;
2. The article *J. Med. Chem.*, 1977, 20, pp821-826; and
3. The article *March's Advanced Organic Chemistry* p510.

If there are any deficiencies of the fees enclosed for filing this Response, please deduct from, or where there may be an overpayment, refund to Deposit Account No. 08-3255, in the name of Ivor M. Hughes and advise Applicant's Agent.

Also enclosed herewith is a stamped, self-addressed verification card, which we request that you kindly acknowledge and return to the office at the earliest opportunity. We

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thank the director for his cooperation in this regard and look forward to receiving filing data in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,



Francis Ng-Cheng-Hin
Registration No. 58,218
Agent for Applicant

FH/md
Enclosures



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

Application Serial No. 10/663,836

Our Ref.: PT-2050000

CUSTOMER NO. 23607

Confirmation No. 2694

Applicant: Apotex Pharmachem Inc.
(formerly Brantford Chemicals Inc.)

Agent: Ivor M. Hughes
Suite 200
175 Commerce Valley
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Thornhill, Ontario
Canada L3T 7P6

Title: **A NOVEL PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF FLECAINIDE, ITS
PHARMACEUTICALLY ACCEPTABLE SALTS AND IMPORTANT
INTERMEDIATES THEREOF**

Inventors: Zhi-Xian Wang, Yaunqiang Li and Bhaskar Reddy Guntoori

Examiner: Taylor Victor Oh

Group Art Unit: 1625

Due Date: March 1, 2006

**RESPONSE TO OFFICIAL ACTION
OF DECEMBER 1, 2005
AMENDMENTS AND REMARKS**

February 28, 2006

The Commissioner of Patents
UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE
Mail Stop Amendment
Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the outstanding Official Action dated December 1, 2005 and due for response March 1, 2006.

Please enter the following submissions:

IN THE DISCLOSURE

Please amend paragraph [0007] appearing on page 3 as follows:

[0007] Scheme 1 outlines the method of preparation of Flecainide. The method includes the following advantages:

- 1) begins from the inexpensive and readily available 2-halobenzoic acid;
- 2) high selectivity in the halogenation and amide formation steps;
- [[4]] 3) high yield;
- 5 4) low cost solvents used throughout; and
- 6 5) amendable for large scale production and does not require specialized equipment.